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of the press, they are unequalled by any American, and unsurpassed by any English edition of a standard author designed for general circulation and use, and, indeed, are immeasurably to be preferred as specimens of art to nine tenths of the professedly ornamented books that are made to be looked at and not read. It is, in fact, such volumes as these that are needed to redeem the book-making craft from the discredit cast upon it by the gilded and satin-bound enormities that swarm on our booksellers' counters as often as Christmas recurs.

16. — *History of Civilization in England.* By HENRY THOMAS BUCKLE. Vol. I. From the Second London Edition. To which is added an Alphabetical Index. New York: D. Appleton & Co. 1858. 8vo. pp. 677.

WHEN our article on this volume went to press, we were unaware that the Appletons' edition of it was in progress. We need only name the publishers to give assurance that this work, so much in demand, may be as easily and pleasantly read (though at much less cost) in the reprint as in the London edition.

17. — *A History of East Boston; with Biographical Sketches of its Early Proprietors, and an Appendix.* By WILLIAM H. SUMNER, A. M. Boston: J. E. Tilton & Co. 1858. 12mo. pp. 801.

CONSIDERABLY more than half of this ponderous volume is devoted to materials of historical, antiquarian, and biographical interest, more or less intimately connected with the ownership and occupancy of Noddle's Island before it became East Boston. How rich a vein Mr. Sumner has mined our readers can imagine, when they are told that Samuel Maverick owned the island and lived upon it; that it was for several years in the middle of the seventeenth century a place of refuge for the Baptists from persecution on the mainland, and the seat of the only Baptist Church in the Province; that among the biographical notices, in addition to those of the Mavericks, Shrimptons, Shutes, and Hyslops, are life-sketches of such persons as Rev. Dr. Chauncy, Governor Increase Sumner, and his accomplished wife; and that this spot was the scene of military operations of no little importance during the war of the Revolution. Mr. Sumner has enriched his volume by numerous autographs, several well-executed portraits, and other appropriate illustrations. The work is honorable at once to his zeal in col-

lecting, and his taste in reducing to order, records, traditions, and reminiscences, derived from very numerous, diverse, and widely separated sources.

18. — *A Text-Book of Vegetable and Animal Physiology. Designed for the use of Schools, Seminaries, and Colleges in the United States.* By HENRY GOADBY, M. D., Professor of Vegetable and Animal Physiology and Entomology in the State Agricultural College of Michigan. Embellished with upwards of Four Hundred and Fifty Illustrations. New York: D. Appleton & Co. 1858. 8vo. pp. 313.

WHEN we first saw the title of this book, we supposed that there was no place for it, in the multitude of treatises similarly named. But on examination, we are inclined to think that it has a clear field. It is peculiarly an histology, — a treatise on tissues; it is founded on recent microscopic researches, and applies their results to the solution of familiar facts and phenomena. The engravings are chiefly of tissue, as seen through the microscope. They are executed in white on a black ground, and are thus especially adapted to the delineation of nerves, which are always white. The entire work bears abundant tokens of thorough comprehension of the subject, mature judgment, superior analytic power, ripe learning, and an eminent capacity of teaching. It is perfectly evident that the author has been an experienced and successful lecturer on physiology; for his whole style of presentation has at once the lucidness and the flexibility which could grow only from the habit of *viva voce* utterance on his somewhat recondite themes.

19. — *Text-Book of Modern Carpentry; comprising a Treatise on Building-Timber, with Rules and Tables for calculating its Strength, and the Strains to which each Timber of a Structure is subjected; Observations on Roofs, Trusses, Bridges, &c.; and a Glossary, explaining at length the Technical Terms in Use among Carpenters.* By THOMAS W. SILLOWAY, Architect of the New Capitol at Montpelier, Vermont. Illustrated by Twenty Copperplates. Boston: Crosby, Nichols, & Co. 1858. 16mo. pp. 180.

WE welcome every well-conceived endeavor to unite science and the useful arts, both as tending to elevate the intellectual standard of the artisan, and as insuring a higher value for his work. In many of our new towns and cities the construction of ruins might have seemed the